

REMARKS

1. In response to the final Office Action mailed June 14, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-8 and 10-17 were last presented for examination. Claims 18-75 were previously withdrawn and claims 1-8 and 10-17 were rejected. By the foregoing Amendments, no claims have been amended, canceled or added. Thus, upon entry of this paper, claims 1-8 and 10-75 will remain pending in this application. Of these seventy-four (74) claims, seven (7) claims (claims 1, 18, 35, 43, 52, 54 and 55) are independent. Based on the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that all outstanding objections and rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

Drawings

2. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that the drawings filed on June 26, 2003 have been accepted as formal drawings.

Claim Rejections

3. In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-8 and 10-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,617,872 to Vogley (hereinafter, "Vogley") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2003/0130969 to Hawkins (hereinafter, "Hawkins").

4. Vogley discloses an integrated circuit device test arrangement includes a plurality of microcomputers where each of the microcomputers is interconnected directly through a separate test socket to a separate integrated circuit device that is inserted into the test socket.¹ In particular, as shown in **FIG. 1** below, Vogley discloses an integrated circuit device test arrangement **20** that includes integrated circuit devices **24, 25** which are plugged into or installed respectively in test sockets **30, 31**.² Further, Vogley discloses that the test sockets **30, 31** are mounted on one side of a test handler board **35** and on the other side of the test handler board **35**,

¹ Vogley at ABSTRACT.

² *Id.* at **FIG. 1**; and column 2, lines 57-60.

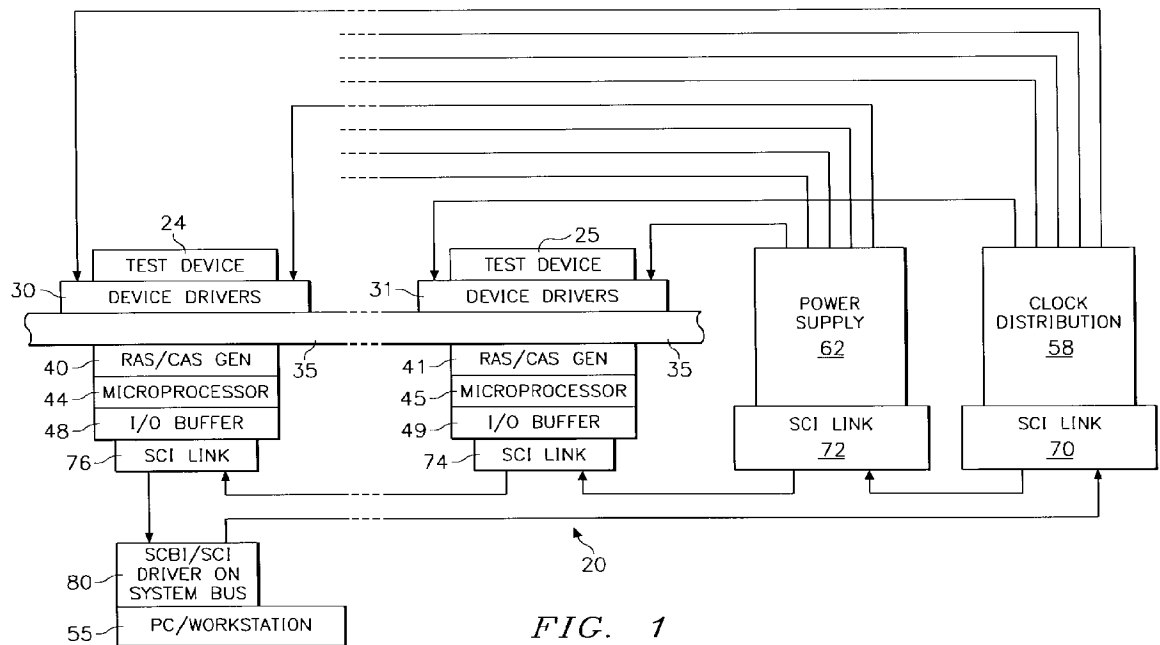


FIG. 1

there are microcomputer sockets 40, 41 into which are plugged, respectively, microcomputer devices 44, 45 with input/output buffers 48, 49.³ Further, Vogley discloses appropriate leads of the microcomputers 44, 45 are connected through the respective microcomputer sockets 40, 41, and test sockets 30, 31 to the integrated circuit devices 24, 25.⁴

5. Further, Vogley discloses a personal computer or a workstation 55, a clock distribution block 58, a power supply 62, scalable coherent interface (SCI) links 70, 72, 74, 76, and an SCI driver arrangement 80.⁵ Furthermore, Vogley discloses a clock distribution block 58 applies clock signals by way of leads 85 to the test sockets 30, 31; and power supply 62 supplies external voltages by way of leads 87 also to the test sockets 30, 31.⁶

6. Moreover, Vogley discloses an exemplary test procedure (i.e., see FIG. 2) controlled by the microprocessor associated with an individual integrated circuit device (i.e., see 44, 45 in

³ *Id.* at FIG. 1; and column 2, lines 60-64.

⁴ *Id.* at FIG. 1; and column 2, lines 64 to column 3, line 1.

⁵ *Id.* at FIG. 1; and column 3, lines 7-10.

⁶ *Id.* at FIG. 1; and column 3, lines 13-16.

FIG. 1) is completed except for reporting resulting test data to the personal computer or work station (i.e., see **55** in **FIG. 1**; emphasis added).⁷ That is, Vogley discloses microprocessors **44**, **45** set at least one operating parameter associated with at least one of said components to one or more test value in response to commands from the baseboard management controller (BMC).

7. However, Vogley does not disclose, as claim 1 recites:

a host controller configured to execute an operating system and one or more management agents;
a plurality of components configured to provide functionality for the electronic system; and
a margin testing system for margin testing one or more of the components configured to provide functionality for the electronic system, the margin testing system comprising:
a baseboard management controller (BMC)
configured to communicate with the host controller; and
a digital parameter adjuster configured to communicate with said BMC and set at least one operating parameter associated with at least one of said components to one or more test values in response to commands from said BMC (emphasis added).

That is, Vogley discloses and the outstanding Office Action suggests microprocessors **44**, **45** are analogous to the recited “baseband management controller” and the workstation **55** is analogous to the “host controller,” as recited in claim 1.⁸ However, Vogley nowhere discloses a third and separate limitation of a: “digital parameter adjuster configured to communicate with said BMC and set at least one operating parameter associated with at least one of said components to one or more test values in response to commands from said BMC,” as recited in claim 1. In contrast to the claimed invention, Vogley discloses, as discussed above, microprocessors **44**, **45** set at least one operating parameter associated with at least one of said components to one or more test value in response to commands from the baseboard management controller (BMC).

8. As clearly recited in claim 1 above, there are *three separate limitations* (i.e., “host controller,” baseband management controller” and “digital parameter adjuster”) in the claimed

⁷ *Id.* at **FIG. 1**, **FIG. 2**; and column 4, lines 44-47.

⁸ Outstanding Office Action dated June 14, 2007 at pages 2-3, paragraph 2 lines 7-17.

invention. As shown below, **FIG. 1A** of the specification, clearly illustrates each of the three separate limitations of the claimed invention recited above. That is, as shown in **FIG. 1A**, the claimed invention comprises the host controller **24**, the baseband management controller **14** and the digital parameter adjuster **22**.

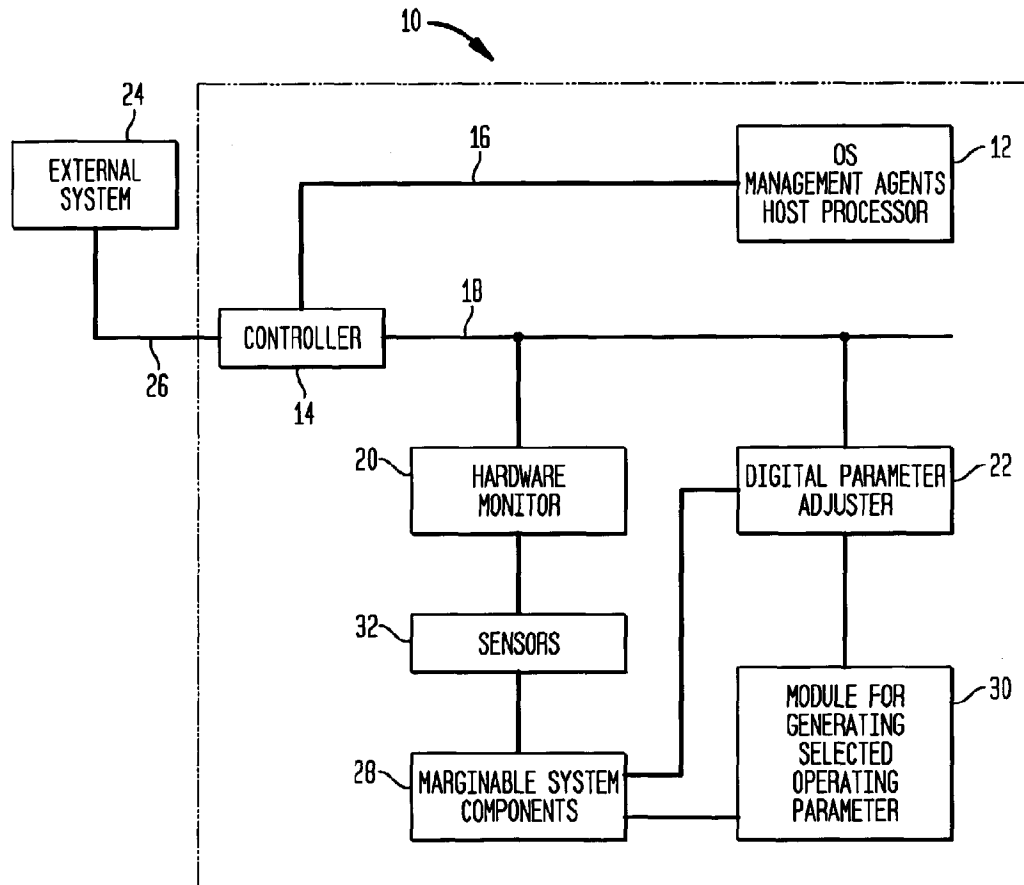


FIG. 1A of the Specification

9. Thus, in consideration of the discussion above, it is respectfully submitted that Vogley does not disclose all of the limitations of claim 1 and claims dependent thereon. Moreover, the outstanding Office Action acknowledges deficiencies of Vogley and attempts to overcome those deficiencies by combining Hawkins with Vogley. In particular, the outstanding Office Action states that Vogley: “does not expressly teach that the controller is a baseboard management

controller that is configured to monitor a response of said electronic system to said test values, ”, as recited in claim 1.⁹ However, it is respectfully submitted that Hawkins cannot overcome all of the deficiencies of Vogley, as discussed below.

10. Hawkins discloses a star Intelligent Platform Management Bus ("IPMB") topology that uses independent intelligent platform management buses between a central Baseboard Management Controller ("BMC") and various satellite management controllers ("SMCs")¹⁰. However, Hawkins does not disclose, as claim 1 recites:

a host controller configured to execute an operating system and one or more management agents;
a plurality of components configured to provide functionality for the electronic system; and
a margin testing system for margin testing one or more of the components configured to provide functionality for the electronic system, the margin testing system comprising:
a baseboard management controller (BMC) configured to communicate with the host controller; and
a digital parameter adjuster configured to communicate with said BMC and set at least one operating parameter associated with at least one of said components to one or more test values in response to commands from said BMC (emphasis added).

11. That is, Hawkins discloses there are *three separate limitations* (i.e., “host controller,” baseband management controller” and “digital parameter adjuster”) in the claimed invention. Moreover, Hawkins nowhere discloses the third and separate limitation of a: “digital parameter adjuster configured to communicate with said BMC and set at least one operating parameter associated with at least one of said components to one or more test values in response to commands from said BMC,” as recited in claim 1. Thus, Hawkins cannot overcome all of the deficiencies of Vogley. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that neither Vogley nor Hawkins, whether taken alone or in combination, discloses, suggests or makes obvious the claimed invention and that claim 1, and claims dependent thereon, patentably distinguish thereover.

⁹ *Id.* at page 3, paragraph 2, lines 20-22.

¹⁰ Hawkins at ABSTRACT.

Dependent Claims

12. The dependent claims incorporate all of the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them *a fortiori* independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections of the dependent claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

13. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Michael G. Verga/
Michael G. Verga, Esq.
Registration No.: 39,410
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1875 Eye Street, N.W.
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 331-7111 (Tel)
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Agent for Applicant